GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:329
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Empowerment of Differently Abled Persons
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for empowerment of differently abled persons in the country, if so, the details and the status of implementation of the schemes, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up old age homes for the differently abled persons and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds allocated, released and the actual expenditure incurred for the empowerment of these persons during each of the last three years and the current year along with the projection of financial resources for the next three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to facilitate/empower the differently abled persons so as to enable them to earn their livelihood with dignity; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made so far in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Department formulated following major schemes towards empowerment of persons with disabilities and are implemented.

(i) Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) running projects for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) aimed at enabling to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels.

(ii) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP).
Under ADIP Scheme the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the needy disabled persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

(iii) Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA)
Under the scheme, Grant-in-aid is provided to State Governments and various bodies set up by the Central and State Government, particularly relating to rehabilitation and provision of barrier-free access.

(iv) Scholarship schemes:
The Ministry provides scholarship schemes for students with disabilities such as Pre-matric, Post-metric, Top Class Education and National Fellowship Schemes. The objectives of the schemes are to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for studying in pre-matric, post matric and Post Graduate courses in some Institutes of Excellence as notified in the scheme.

(b) At present, there is no Scheme in this Ministry for setting up of old age homes for persons with disabilities. However, the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment of this Ministry implements a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants are given for running and maintenance of old age homes, day care centres, mobile Medicare units etc for the older destitute. The main objective of the scheme is to improve the quality of life of older persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities, etc. Implementing agencies eligible for assistance under the scheme are Panchayati Raj institutions/local bodies, non-government voluntary organizations, institutions or organizations set up by Government as autonomous/ subordinate bodies, Government recognized educational institutions, charitable hospitals/nursing homes, and recognized youth organisations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and in exceptional cases the State Governments/UT administrations. Grants-in-aid is also admissible to the NGOs for running old age homes, for even persons with disabilities under the scheme of Integrated Programme for Older persons.

(c) State-wise details of funds under DDRS, ADIP, Scholarship Schemes are at Annexure I to IV.
As far as projections of financial resources for next three years is concerned, the allocation of Budget is an annual exercise carried out in consultations with the Finance Ministry; and hence no such information is available.

(d) (d) and (e) : The Government has also recently notified the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The new Act provides for more entitlements for persons with disabilities including increased reservation in vacancies in Government jobs from 3% to 4% for certain persons or class of persons with benchmark disability.

Further, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the National Action Plan (NAP) for skill training of persons with disabilities, in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 21st March 2015. In order to implement NAP, a panel of Empanelled Training Partners (ETPs) has been prepared comprising 202 organizations including 14 Govt. Organizations and 188 Voluntary Organizations (VOs).

Apart from these Empanelled Training Partners (ETPs) skilling of PwDs is also being done through 7 National Institutes (NIs), National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC - a PSU under DEPwD) and Vocational Training Centers (VTCs) run by Voluntary Organizations as a part of Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme.
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